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Page: 1/1

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

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**KENYA, UGANDA, TANZANIA, RWANDA, BURUNDI – EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC)
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE STANDARDS**

STATEMENT BY KENYA, UGANDA, TANZANIA, RWANDA AND BURUNDI TO THE COMMITTEE
ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE - 20 AND 21 JUNE 2018

The following communication, dated 21 June 2018, is being circulated at the request of the delegations of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi.

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1. On behalf of the EAC Partner States of Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Burundi, the Delegation of Kenya would like to thank the Delegations of the European Union (EU) and the United States (US) for the continued interest they have shown in the East African Community (EAC) Alcoholic Beverage Standards, following our notification of these standards as per the requirements of the TBT Agreement.
 2. As we stated in our previous meetings, the EAC Alcoholic Beverage Standards are regional harmonized standards. EAC Standards are developed by the EAC Technical Committees comprising of technical experts from Partner States, and subsequently adopted by the Partner States for implementation upon approval by the EAC Council of Ministers.
 3. We wish to draw the attention of Members to our previous statements on this matter and further inform members that the standards have been going through the revision process at regional level. So far, the revised standards on Spirits, Sparkling Wine and Fortified Wines have been approved by the relevant Sectoral Council of Ministers, and will soon be gazetted as East Africa Standards. The EAC Partner States will thereafter individually adopt the gazetted standards as National Standards, thereby making them available for use by the stakeholders.
 4. Discussions on standards on Beers and Still Table Wine are ongoing. We shall keep the Members updated on any new developments in this area in our subsequent meetings.
 5. The EAC Partner States are ready for further engagement with the Delegations of the EU, US, Argentina and others on this matter.
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